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NOVENA

IN HONOUR OF

THE GLORIOUS PATRIARCH SAINT JOSEPH.



LONDON:
THOMAS RICHARDSON AND SON,
172, FLEET STREET; 9, CAPEL STREET, DUBLIN; AND DEBBY.

THE BEADS OF ST. JOSEPH.

Upon the great beads, you recite the following prayer, which the holy Church makes use of in his Divine Office.

The Prayer.

Assist us, O Lord, we beseech thee, by the merits of the spouse of thy most holy Mother, that what of ourselves we cannot obtain, may be given us by his intercession; who livest and reignest with God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

Upon the lesser Beads you say:

Most glorious Patriarch St. Joseph, fosterfather to Jesus, and spouse of the ever immaculate Mother of God, pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen

ST. JOSEPH.

Holy Saint Joseph! hear thy suppliant's prayer. And take me to thy own paternal care; For thou whom God selected on this earth To watch the infant Jesus at his birth. And guard the Virgin Mother of the child.— The ever blessed Mary undefiled!-Othou to whom such wondrous charge was given. Must surely now be powerful in Heaven! Be, then, dear Father to my Jesus, be A father and protector unto me. Beseech of Jesus that I may obtain What none through thee have ever sought in vain-The love of Jesus, with a heart sincere, Free from the selfishness of hope or fear: Thus, for God's glory that I may adore Jesus my Saviour now and evermore. And thou, O Mary! ever "Blessed" styled. The Virgin Mother of the Saviour Child. With holy Joseph take me to thy care, For thus protected, God will hear my prayer! Amen. W. N. S.

NOVENA OF ST. JOSEPH,

&c.

The First Dolour.

The tormenting thoughts of forsaking his spouse in a state of pregnancy.

The First Joy.

The comfortable message of the angel: "Joseph, son of David, do not fear, take Mary for thy wife."

The Prayer.

O chaste Joseph, I most humbly petition by this grief and this joy, that you will make supplication for my being preserved in unalterable purity of soul and body, that I may overcome all temptations and perplexities, curb my censuring others, and that I may, by concurring with divine inspirations, deserve the favourable assistance of my good angel, in directing me to the performance of my duty towards God and man, through our Lord Jesus Christ, who

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with the Father and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth, one God, world with end. Amen.

Our Father, &c. Hail Mary, &c.

The Second Dolour.

St. Joseph's beholding the child Jesus shivering with cold in the manger, and so miserably accommodated.

The Second Joy.

His hearing the Angelical Harmony—the Adoration of the Shepherds, and the three Kings prostrate before the Infant God.

The Prayer.

Compassionate St. Joseph, I most humbly petition by this grief and this joy, that you will make intercession for me, that my frozen heart may become a fervent receptacle of my Redeemer in the adorable Sacrament of the Altar, and my poor soul a permanent dwelling place of the Holy Ghost. I now freely offer my memory, will, and understanding, to be governed by divine Providence, beseeching God, by your merits, that I may adore him so faithfully on earth.

as to deserve to sing eternally with the blessed angels that joyful canticle, Glory be to God on High: through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Father, &c. Hail Mary, &c.

The Third Dolour.

St. Joseph's beholding Christ to shed his sacred blood so early, in the Circumcision.

The Third Joy.

His pronouncing the most sacred and saving name of JESUS, as the eternal Father had ordered by the angel.

The Prayer.

Saint Joseph, my great Patron, I most humbly petition by this grief and by this joy, that you will make intercession for me, that I may shed tears of perfect contrition for being the occasion of my dear Redeemer's shedding his most precious blood; that if called to trial for his sake, I may cheerfully offer up my life to him that gave it. I also rejoice that my Jesus was pleased to bleed at that tender age, to ransom me and all mankind from everlasting perdition.



I likewise beg that the saving name of Jesus may be so deeply imprinted in my heart and memory, as never to think, say, or do anything against God's honour: through the same Lord Jesus Christ. Our Father, &c. Hail Mary, &c.

The Fourth Dolour.

The words of Simeon on the day of the Purification, that a sword should pierce the Blessed Virgin's heart.

The Fourth Joy.

What Simeon said, that Christ should be a light to the Gentiles, the glory of Israel, and resurrection of many.

The Prayer.

Saint Joseph, comforter of the afflicted, I most humbly petition by this grief and this joy, that I may be tender and compassionate in the sorrows of my neighbours; that I may partake fully of the dolours and merits of the blessed Virgin standing under the heavy cross of her bleeding Son, to the end that my Saviour may be a clear light to me in walking the narrow way, by

a holy life, towards the beatific vision of my God and a glorious resurrection: through the same Lord Jesus Christ. Our Father, &c. Hail Mary, &c.

The Fifth Dolour.

Christ's flight into Egypt, occasioned by persecuting Herod,

The Fifth Joy.

The falling down of the Egyptian idols, at the approach of the Son of God.

The Prayer.

Holy St. Joseph, perfectly resigned to Almighty God's fatherly appointments and permissions, I most humbly petition, by this grief and this joy, that I may willingly submit and carefully conform to whatever crosses or vexations the divine wisdom and infinite goodness see expedient for me, that I may be as equally thankful in the sharpest adversity as in flourishing prosperity, that I may, by your intercession, experience the unspeakable joy of trampling on and keeping under foot the deformed idols of inordinate passions, and vain and sordid plea-

sures, so much courted and adored by the vicious world: through our Lord Jesus Christ, &c. Our Father, &c. Hail Mary, &c.

. The Sixth Dolour.

The fear St. Joseph had at his coming from Egypt, hearing that Archelaus reigned.

The Sixth Joy.

Orders from heaven by an angel to return home with Jesus and his blessed Mother.

The Prayer.

Vigilant St. Joseph, careful guardian of Jesus and Mary, look down from heaven upon a poor soul surrounded with many dangers of falling into sin, and dropping into hell. I most humbly petition, by this grief and this joy, that you will intercede for me, that I may not fear anything but offending my good God. Protect me from the tyranny of infernal powers, and beg, by the passion of Christ, that he will compassionate my infirmity, and enable me with his grace to walk cautiously between love and fear through the dangerous Egypt of

this uncertain life, so as to enter joyfully the blessed land of promise to enjoy eternal happiness: through our Lord Jesus Christ. Our Father, &c. Hail Mary, &c

The Seventh Dolour.

St. Joseph's looking for Jesus at twelve years of age, when returning from Jerusalem.

The Seventh Joy.

His finding Jesus in the Temple, sitting amongst the doctors, who were astonished at his wisdom.

The Prayer.

Saint Joseph, my powerful advocate, who in the losing and finding of Jesus experienced the two extremes of intense anguish and transporting joy, I, your unworthy supplicant, most humbly petition that I may never lose my God by mortal sin, although it were to enjoy all the comforts which this world can give. I now seriously repent, and will lament, during the remainder of my life, for having so frequently parted, through my fault, with divine grace. I

have nothing worthy of acceptance to atone for my crimes, and pay off my debt; I offer the merits of my Redeemer to thee, O eternal Father; and you, glorious fosterfather of Jesus, offer for me all the foresaid dolours and joys, that, by worthy fruits of penance, I may seek my Creator sorrowing, and after a happy death, adore him in the heavenly Jerusalem, there to enjoy what the heart of man has not conceived: through our Lord Jesus Christ, &c.

Our Father, &c. Hail Mary, &c.

COLLOQUY I.

Blessed St. Joseph, sanctified babe, born for great ends to be the guardian of Jesus and Mary, make powerful intercession for me, that my pious resolutions may not prove abortive. That I may be born to an interior and spiritual life. That I may have such an increase of sanctity, such an ardent love for purity, such abject thoughts of my own vileness, so clear a light to view worldly greatness which is vanity of vanities, as to undervalue things which deserve not the character of true wisdom and heavenly virtue, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

COLLOQUY II.

Omnipotent Creator, whose unerring providence adds joy every moment to the angels in heaven, and to saints upon earth, I most humbly beg, by the intercession of St. Joseph, that I may cheerfully acquiesce and rejoice in every thing that comes from thy fatherly hand, that I may be vigorous in executing your divine will, and glorify you in my present state. Grant me the true spirit of mortification, to subdue my stubborn passions, to satisfy for what is past, and to be a preservative from future dangers. Grant that by purity of intention, the meanest of my actions may be acceptable to you, as the two little mites were of the poor widow thrown into the treasury of the temple, through Christ our Lord. Amen

COLLOQUY III.

Omnipotent God, at whose command every tree produced fruit of its kind (Gen. i. 11,) grant me, by the intercession of this noble virgin, prayer, that I may serve you faithfully in the state you have placed me. I firmly believe every word you have revealed, yet help my incredulity, lest I be

in the unfortunate number of the foolish virgins who carried lamps without oil. Assist me with your powerful grace, that I may act as I profess; that I may be humble, charitable and chaste, and not stand like the barren fig tree, and be fuel for eternal flames, through the infinite merits of Jesus my Saviour. Amen.

COLLOQUY IV.

Holy Ghost, my God of all comfort! If you see it expedient for the greater security of my salvation, that I be overwhelmed with tribulation, permit me not to sink. Infinite power bear me up, you know my weakness. Favour me with such graces that I may be compassionate towards my neighbour, governing myself by the spirit of lenity and charity, as if the case were my own. I deplore my censorious temper, and I resolve to stand upon my guard. It is a mercy you let me see my weakness. I render you thanks for my intentions of becoming better, and for not being worse than I am; but because of myself I am no more able to keep a good purpose than to remove a mountain, I beg your assistance that I may fulfil what you command, and then command what you please. Afflict me with such crosses as I can bear, to the end I may pay off the great arrear due to divine justice. Grant me, by the intercession of St. Joseph, that after my temporal trials, whether exterior or interior, I may find that permanent joy with which you render his immaculate spouse and him eternally happy. Amen.

COLLOQUY V.

O my infinite God! how truly may it be said of me, "The ox has known his owner, and the ass the manger of his lord," (Isa. lxxxi.) but I have not known you. I admire your love and charity, I am ashamed of my tepidity and stupidity. Infinite goodness, I come too late to love you. Although at the eleventh hour, bestow on me the promised penny—be to me a Jesus, and you who both fed. me and bled for my misfortunes, let me partake of thy eternal charity. Grant, by the intercession of St. Joseph, that my purposes may be perfected by divine assistance. I also beg, that when I entertain you in the most blessed sacrament, I may be favoured with such affections of adoration, love, and thanksgiving, as St.

Joseph experienced when he took you back in his arms from Simeon, to restore you to your blessed mother. Amen.

COLLOQUY VI.

Jesus, my maker and master! without whose merciful assistance I walk in darkness and perish, I most humbly beg, through the intercession of St. Joseph, that you will teach me the direct road from my Egyptian slavery, the servitude of sin under which I have so long groaned, to the liberty of your faithful servants. I have frequently experienced your goodness, and I know your power-my trust is in both. O grant me constancy to contemn the allurements of the world, and to stand undaunted at afflicting My dear Redeemer, I have too often lost you by sin; I have willingly and wilfully parted with you for what I blush to think on. Pity the unfortunate, O God, who came to seek sinners, of whom I have been the ring-leader. Thou art now pleased to bless me with so true a sense of my former trespasses, that I grieve not so much for the fear of punishment as that my sins have offended thee, the circle and centre of all goodness. I steadfastly purpose, by

thy holy grace, to seek you seriously by the reformation of my life, that I may find thee in the heavenly Jerusalem, reigning with the Father and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

COLLOQUY VII.

Omnipotent God! who descendest from Heaven to bring fire to the earth, St. Luke xii. inflame my frozen heart, that I may imitate the virtues of St. Joseph. As a poor wretch waits at the gate of some noble and generous prince expecting an alms, so I appear before thee wounded in all my senses by sin, and craving a charity in my great calamity. I grieve for what is past, not because I fear, but because I love; nothing has succeeded with me because I never consulted thee as I ought. I hope, O Lord, that I do not come too late. I beg, by the intercession of St. Joseph, that I may decline evil and do good, that I may leave the sinful track of the broad way, and walk directly towards you. That I may distribute the few remaining hours of my short life to your honour, and attaining the end for which I was created, that I may admire, praise, and love you for ever and ever. Amen.

COLLOQUY VIII.

O most glorious Patriarch, my dear patron, blessed are the eyes that see what you now see. I confide with holy Job, through the infinite merits of Christ, and by your powerful intercession, that in my flesh I shall see God my Saviour. Stretch out for your unworthy client, those happy hands which carried so often and provided for the Son of God. Petition that I may live as I wish to die, always in the divine favour. I most humbly beg that you will prevail with your Immaculate Spouse, to join in prayer with you, that I, her unworthy suppliant, may be saved, and make one of the number of the elect. With profound humility, I beseech you to be present with me at the dreadful hour of my death, when my last grateful words shall be, with my parting breath, to invoke the sacred names of Jesus, Mary, Joseph; and having satisfied divine justice for my manifold transgressions, for which I deserved to have been now burning with reprobate souls in unquenchable fire: but your mercy is above all your works, most holy Trinity! and I now appeal from the Tribunal of thy justice; and prostrate myself before the Throne or

thy Mercy, for pardon of my sins, and grace to persevere in keeping thy commandments to the end of my life, who liveth and reigneth one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A prayer to St. Joseph.

Illustrious Saint! who art that good and faithful servant to whom God committed the care of his family; whom he appointed guardian and protector of the life of Jesus Christ; the comfort and support of his holy Mother, and co-partner in his great design in the redemption of mankind; thou who hadst the happiness of living with Jesus and Mary, and of dying in their arms; chaste spouse of the Mother of God; model and patron of pure souls; humble, patient, and reserved; be moved with the confidence we place in thy intercession, and accept with kindness this testimony of our devotion.

We give thanks to God for the signal favours he had been pleased to confer on thee, and we conjure him, by thy intercession, to make us imitate thy virtues. Pray for us, then, O great Saint, and by that love which thou hadst for Jesus and Mary

and by the love which Jesus and Mary had for thee, obtain for us the incomparable happiness of living and dying in the love of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

HYMN,

Let heaven's bright host thy praise proclaim, And Christian choirs resound the same: Joseph in chastest wedlock tied, To the ever Virgin bride.

Thy Virgin consort breaks thy rest, And anxious doubts disturb thy breast, Till the Augel thy suspicion heals, And God made Man reveals.

Thy arms embrace the new-born Lord; With him thou flee'st from Herod's sword; Him three days lost thou find'st again, And joy succeeds thy pain.

In the other world saints have their bliss, And wear the palms deserved in this; Thou, crown'd with greater happiness, On earth doth God possess.

Pardon our sins, great One in Three, Let Joseph's prayers bring us to thee, Where we may sing loud hymns of praise, For endless years and days. Amen. V. He hath appointed him Lord of his house,

R. And Chief over all he had.

Prayer.

Omnipotent and merciful Lord Jesus, who didst provide St. Joseph the just, son of David, for the spouse of blessed Mary, thy Virgin Mother, and chose him for thy foster-father, grant, we beseech thee, that by his prayers and merits, thy Church may enjoy a perfect peace, and so arrive at the consolation of thy everlasting vision: through the same Lord Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth for ever and ever. Amen.

HYMN AND PRAYER IN HONOUR OF ST. JOSEPH.

Translated by the Rev. M. K., Society of Jesus.

Pius VII., by a rescript of the 6th of September, 1804, granted an indulgence of one year, applicable to the souls in purgatory, to all the faithful, every time they would devoutly repeat the following Hymn and Prayer, in honour of the Patriarch St. Joseph, the foster-father of Jesus Christ and the most chaste spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

A.M.D.G

HYMN TO ST. JOSEPH.

т

Whoever blessed with health would spend, Life's transient day, and calmly end That day without a fear; To Joseph let them turn their eyes, To Joseph let their prayers arise, And he their prayers will hear.

IT.

Spouse of the Virgin maid was he,
And once, in Judah, deem'd to be
The parent of her child;
What may not he obtain of God,
Who Heaven's own pathway faithful trod—
Whose life was undefil'd?
Whoever, &c.

III.

The new-born Babe in Bethlehem's shed,
He worshipp'd—thence to Egypt fled,
To cheer the exil'd Boy—
And later with a parent's pain,
Sought him when lost, and found again,
With all a parent's joy.
Whoever, &c.

17

His daily toil with fostering aid, Supplied the wants of Him who made Earth's orb with plastic handAnd he, who ere the Dog-star shone, Was hail'd God's own Eternal Son, Obey'd his least command. Whoever, &c.

v.

At length, when life's last hour drew nigh, Mary and Jesus both stood by.

To smooth his bed of death;— And in their arms without a tear, Without one agonizing fear,

He breath'd his parting breath. Whoever, &c.

Anthem.

Behold the prudent and faithful servant, whom the Lord shall place over his family.

V. Pray for us, holy St. Joseph.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us Pray.

Oh God, in thy ineffable providence, hast chosen the blessed St. Joseph, to be the spouse of thy most holy mother, grant, we beseech thee, that we may deserve to find in him an intercessor in heaven, whom as a protector we venerate on earth: who livest and reignest, &c.

The contributors to St. Joseph's Asylum, established in Dublin, in the year of 1836, obtain the

following spiritual advantages.

The Most Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered on the first Wednesday of every month, in the Church of the Conception, Marlborough-street—and also in the Convent Chapel of North William-street, for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the collectors and subscribers, and for the happy repose of the souls of the deceased benefactors and members of this asylum—their parents, friends, and relations.

The poor inmates offer their most fervent prayers with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

every day, for the above intentions.

They also pray for their benefactors each day at 12 o'clock, and every day after each meal.

They recite the Rosary for them each evening at six o'clock, and say the Litany of St. Joseph for them every night.

They also offer up their communion for them

on the third Sanday of each month.

And they offer up their prayers in a special manner whenever they are informed of the sick-

ness or death of any of their benefactors.

Previous to the feast of St. Joseph, 19th March, and the patronage of St. Joseph, third Sunday after Easter, they will say the Novena dedicated to him, for the spiritual and temporal welfare of all the benefactors.

By a rescript, dated at Rome the 14th of May, 1842, our Most Holy Father, Pope Gregory XVI, graciously granted for ever the following Indulgences to the contributors of St. Joseph's Asvlum:—

A plenary Indulgence to such as shall approach the sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist, on the feasts of the Patron St. Josephlikewise a plenary indulgence in the hour of death, and once each month, on any day at their option.

These indulgences may be applied, by way of

suffrage, to the souls of the faithful departed.

JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH.

Pius VII, by a decree of the 28th April, 1807, granted for ever, an indulgence of 300 days, to the faithful each time they devoutly repeat the following three aspirations, and if only one of them is said, an indulgence of 100 days, and all applicable to the souls in purgatory.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I offer you my heart and soul.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, assist me in my last agony.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, may I expire in peace with you.

Pius VII, by a rescript of the 13th June, 1815, conferred for ever the following indulgences already granted to those who give food to three poor persons, in special remembrance and honour of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

1. Seven years and seven quarantines each time they perform this charitable work with true

contrition for their sins.

2. A plenary indulgence if they go to confes-

sion and communion, &c.

3. An indulgence of 100 days, to those belonging to the family of the persons who give this

relief, if they contribute to the work of mercy. by their services, or even by their presence.

These indulgences are applicable to the souls

in purgatory.

LITANY OF ST. JOSEPH.

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Jesus, hear us.

Jesus, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven, have mercy on us. God the Son, Redeemer of the World, have

mercy on us.

God the Holy Ghost, have mercy on us. Holy Trinity, one God, have mercy on us.

Holy Mary,

Holy Gabriel.

Holy Angel Guardian of the just St. Joseph,

St. Joseph.

St. Joseph, whom God loved from all 3 eternity with special love,

St. Joseph, whom the eternal Father made his Vicar on earth,

St. Joseph, whom the eternal Father constituted master of his household,

St. Joseph, whom the eternal Father made prince of all his possessions,

St. Joseph, whom the Son of God wished to be called his father.

St. Joseph, whom the Son of God adopted as his foster-father.

St. Joseph, whom the Son of God assumed as the support of his infancy,

St. Joseph, whom the Holy Ghost sanctified in the womb of thy mother,

St. Joseph, whom the Holy Ghost replenished with all celestial gifts,

St. Joseph, whom the holy Ghost ordained the guide of the child Jesus,

St. Joseph, whom the blessed Trinity gave as spouse to the Virgin Mary,
St. Joseph, to whom the blessed Trinity

gave the Virgin Mary as spouse, St. Joseph, to whose care the blessed Tri-

nity committed all the faithful as children,

St. Joseph, who wast unwilling to expose the Virgin Mother,

St. Joseph, who didst prepare a stall for the Son of the Virgin,

St. Joseph, who wast the first to adore him after his mother,

St. Joseph, who didst call his name Jesus,

St. Joseph, who, with the Virgin Mary, didst present him in the temple,

St. Joseph, who didst carry the child Jesus into Egypt,

St. Joseph, who didst bring back the child Jesus from Egypt,

St. Joseph, who, sorrowing with Mary, didst seek the child Jesus.

St. Joseph, who didst die in the arms of Jesus,

St. Joseph, who with others didst rise .

St. Joseph, who with Jesus from the dead,
St. Joseph, who dost triumph for ever,
shining with ineffable glory,
St. Joseph, who didst sovereignly despise

St. Joseph, ardent lover of the cross, St. Joseph, vermilion rose of charity,

St. Joseph, lily of chastity, St. Joseph, doctor of humility,

St. Joseph, splendour of modesty.

St. Joseph, example of all virtues,

St. Joseph, mirror of married persons,

St. Joseph, advocate of sinners,

St. Joseph, comforter of the afflicted,

St. Joseph, protector of the poor,

St. Joseph, solace of all who labour,

St. Joseph, guide of the wandering,

St. Joseph, the safety of the shipwrecked,

St. Joseph, the father of all the faithful,

St. Joseph, the helper of all who invoke thee.

St. Joseph, the companion of the angels, St. Joseph, who as an angel didst deliver

divine oracles,

St. Joseph, who, as an archangel, wast the companion and guardian of the Angel of the Great Council,

St. Joseph, who didst hold the mastery of the family of God the Father on earth,

St. Joseph, to whom the Almighty was subject,

St. Joseph, to whose government the Lord of Virtues was given up,

St. Joseph, to whose dominion the Queen of Dominations was subject,

St. Joseph, in whose arms and bosom, as on a throne, the King of Glory vouchsafed to sit,

St. Joseph, who as a cherub didst guard Mary, the Paradise of the new Adam,

St. Joseph, who as a seraph didst always burn with divine love in the presence of God,

St. Joseph, the sublimity of patriarchs,

St. Joseph, the joy of the prophets,

St. Joseph, the admiration of apostles,

St. Joseph, the jubilation of martyrs,

St. Joseph, the gladness of priests,
St. Joseph, the crown of confessors,
St. Joseph, the virginal guardian of virgins,
St. Joseph, the glory of all saints,
St. Joseph, our most holy patron,

St. Joseph, our most holy patron, St. Joseph, our strongest defender, St. Joseph, our most loving father, Limb of God who takest away the

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord Jesus.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord Jesus.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us, O Lord Jesus.

Let us Pray.

O God, who vouchsafedst to call St. Joseph the father of thy Son, and the spouse of the blessed Virgin, and that he should be intimately associated with Jesus and Mary, grant, we beseech thee, that being grounded in charity, humility, and chastity, we may perfectly imitate Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, here on earth, so as to merit, to love and praise thee with them for ever in heaven, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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